

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

When one of today's network users uses a ~~browse~~ browser to show him an HTML document and, after a time, selects a link in the document which takes him to another HTML page, the ~~browse~~ browser does not begin to download the relevant data from the network until after the link has been selected. If the user has already looked at the page in question previously, and if as a result the page still happens to be in his computer's local cache, then it will be displayed more quickly. If however the page is not in a cache, the data contained in it will be downloaded from the server to the client via the network.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The method according to the invention makes it possible for web authors to predetermine the downloading of subsequent pages by assigning priorities. In addition, the user can himself make a selection determining the pages to be downloaded from configuration menus which may be part of a ~~browse~~ browser or of an add-on program for the relevant browsers.

Please replace the paragraphs on page 6 with the following amended paragraphs:

In the case of browser-controlled downloading, the browser automatically creates user profiles which observe and analyse the behaviour of users. At the client end, the preferred solution includes in the ~~browser~~ browser a semantic network which is built up from information on the behaviour of the user by data mining and statistical methods. Then, the moment the user views a page, the ~~browser~~ browser prioritises the links included in the page on the basis of the information which has been assembled on the behaviour of the user and starts to download the most probable subsequent pages in background. Neuronal networks too may advantageously be used to detect behaviour. In this way the anticipatory downloading can be individually adjusted to the user's habits and can be optimised.

User-controlled downloading means that it is open to the user to determine the behaviour of the ~~browser~~ browser by using configuring menus and by setting options. The user can employ configuring parameters to specify whether it is complete pages, or alternatively only parts thereof, which are to be downloaded, in accordance with priorities or with probability. Lowest priorities/probabilities required for anticipatory downloading can be defined. Also, the user can define a series of pages which are to be downloaded automatically in the pauses which become available during use. A daily "internet round" can be defined in this way: the pages which have been defined, such as stock exchange bulletins, weather reports and newspaper headlines, will be downloaded continuously making full use of the network connection available and they can then be viewed in peace off-line without being connected to the network service provider.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7 and continuing on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

An network URL (universal resource locator) is entered to select a given web page on the network (step 101) and the site is downloaded to the client's volatile or non-volatile cache (step 102). There the web page is checked for all the links it includes (step 103). This check is made by means of an add-on program, e.g. a so-called plug-in, or a ~~browse~~ browser extension. The job of the add-on program or ~~browse~~ browser extension is to identify links by reference to predefined settings and download them automatically. There are various methods which can be employed to identify and select the links. The links themselves may contain information, e.g. priority information. The add-on program or ~~browse~~ browser extension reads the items of priority information in the individual links and downloads the respective web pages from the server to the client in the sequence determined by the order of priorities while the user is still looking at the original web page.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, and continued on page 9, with the following amended paragraph:

The web pages which can be addressed by the links are downloaded automatically to the client by the add-on program or ~~browse~~ browser extension. Depending on the ~~browse~~ browser setting the downloading may be to the cache of the RAM (memory cache) or the cache of the hard disk (disk cache).

Please replace the paragraphs on page 9 with the following amended paragraphs:

When a user selects a new link on the web page and enables it (step 104), the add-on program or ~~browse~~ browser extension checks to see whether the web page allocated to the link is already in store in the client's cache (step 105). If it is, it is downloaded from the cache (step 106) and displayed. The new web page too is checked for any links it may contain by the add-on program or ~~browse~~ browser extension. If it does contain links, the method according to the invention is started again.

The client-proxy server architecture comprises a client having a ~~browse~~ browser and a cache, and a proxy server having a cache. The client communicates with the network via the proxy server. What is stored in the client's cache is data representing web pages/links which have been downloaded in the past 201.

Please amend the Abstract with the following paragraph:

~~The time during which a data link is not being used, it is used to download those pages to which references are made by links. If one of the pages downloaded in anticipation is needed later on (namely when the user does in fact select the link concerned), the page is already in the cache of the local computer and can be displayed at once. The automatic downloading in anticipation can be initiated both by the client and by the server. The automatic~~ Automatic downloading from a network takes place during the time when an already established connection exists but is not being used. In this way searched data is readily available to the user's system for later use and any unused capacity the network connection has [[is]]

exploited to the full[[.]] ~~This improves the economies or in other words allows fuller use to be~~ is made of the ~~chargeable (telephone)~~ connection which has been made to the network service provider. The automatic downloading is adjusted to the user's ~~habits~~ preferences: the anticipatory downloading of ~~subsequent~~ pages can be ~~influenced directly~~ chosen by the user setting certain configuring parameters on a look ahead downloading option screen. ~~and indirectly by analysing the user's behaviour during use (anticipatory downloading or preloading).~~